

IN THE SPECIFICATION

*Please insert the following heading and paragraph on Page 1, after the title:*

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority of German Patent Application No. 102 12 385.5 filed August 12, 2002, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

*Please replace the paragraph starting on Page 3, line 19, with the following paragraph:*

In Figure 2 the ball joint 10 is shown, arranged on a component 40, which for example is part of a chassis for a motor vehicle. The ball stud 14 is inserted with its thread 24 through the component 40 and is fastened thereon by means of a nut 42. In so doing, the component 40 lies against the contact surface 26 of the ball stud 14. On installation, the part of the sealing bellows [38] 28 arranged on the holding surface 20 is compressed in axial direction, because it is pressed by the component 40 against the shoulder 22 on the ball stud 14. In so doing, the sealing surface 30 of the sealing bellows 28 is also firmly pressed against the holding surface 20, so that a reliable sealing is insured.

*Please insert the following paragraph on Page 4, after Line 3:*

In accordance with the provisions of the patent statutes, the principle and mode of operation of this invention have been explained and illustrated in its preferred embodiment. However, it must be understood that this invention may be practiced otherwise than as specifically explained and illustrated without departing from its spirit or scope.